AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 17, as follows:

--Specification EP 672 781 A1 presents a round elevator suspension rope made of synthetic ~~fibersfibers~~fibers. Topmost on the outside it has a sheath layer surrounding the outermost strand layer. The sheath layer is made of plastic, e.g. polyurethane. The strands are formed from aramid fibers. Each strand is treated with an impregnating agent to protect the fibers. Placed between the outermost and the inner strand layers is an intermediate sheath to reduce friction. To achieve a nearly circular strand layer and to increase the volumetric efficiency, the gaps are filled with backfill strands. The function of the top-most sheath layer is to ensure a coefficient of friction of desired magnitude on the traction sheave and to protect the strands against mechanical and chemical damage and UV radiation. Thus, the load is supported exclusively by the strands. As compared with corresponding steel rope, a rope formed from aramid fibers has a substantially larger load bearing capacity and a specific weight equal to only a fifth or a sixth of the specific weight of corresponding steel rope.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 24, as follows:

--The hoisting ropes now only have ~~the~~ to bear a fraction of the loads of the elevator, as they need not support the load resulting from the passengers of goods being transported and the counterweight. Therefore, the elevator hoisting rope of the invention can be made very thin, which means that it has a small bending diameter. The hoisting rope can also be implemented as a flat rope, in which case the sheath of the hoisting rope is of a planar shape and, in cross-section, the hoisting rope thus has a width substantially larger than its thickness.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 1, as follows:

--Fig. 3 presents a substantially flat elevator hoisting rope 5 as used in the suspension arrangement of the invention. It comprises six bundles 12a - ~~12e~~ 12f of strands fitted in the same plane. The bundles consist of load-bearing strands 13. These longitudinal strands, which form the strength of the rope structure, are made of synthetic fibers, e.g. aramid fibresfibers. The strands are enclosed in a sheath 14 that binds the strands together into a single structure and gives a good friction coefficient in contact with the traction sheave. The bundles 12a - 12f are fitted side by side to form a planar sheath 14, so that the

width of the rope is considerably larger than its thickness. The sheath material 14 may be e.g. polyurethane, which gives a multifold friction coefficient as compared with a steel rope. If necessary, the planar surface of the sheath can be coated with various materials. The properties of the coating 15 regarding friction and wear can be optimized for different traction sheave materials. In Fig. ~~2~~3, the bundles of strands are of a round shape in cross-section, but naturally, the shape can be chosen in accordance with the use.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 15, as follows:

--Fig. 4 presents a flat hoisting rope solution in which the bundles 12 of strands are placed at different distances from each other. The ~~Bundles~~ bundles are somewhat closer to each other near the edges than in the middle part of the hoisting rope. In the solution presented in Fig. 5, the bundles 12 of strands are placed non-symmetrically with respect to the longer midline of the hoisting rope, close to the friction surface of the rope. Fig. 6 presents a solution in which the strands and bundles 12 of strands of the hoisting rope are of different sizes in diameter. The larger bundles are placed at the edges of the rope as seen in its widthways direction, with smaller bundles placed between them. In the ways illustrated by Figures 4-6, it is possible to improve the

tracking of the hoisting rope 5 as it is passing over the traction sheave or diverting pulleys.--